

Message Text

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UNCLAS STATE 145639

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRDUS

SUBJECT: ANTITRUST; DYESTUFFS

1. SINCE EARLY 1973 THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE HAS BEEN CONDUCTING AN INVESTIGATION BEFORE A FEDERAL GRAND JURY CONCERNING WHETHER CERTAIN CORPORATIONS WHICH SELL DYES IN THE U.S. CONSPIRED OR COMBINED TO FIX, RAISE OR MAINTAIN PRICES IN THE PERIOD 1970-1973 IN CRIMINAL VIOLATION OF SECTION 1 OF THE SHERMAN ANTITRUST ACT.

2. AS THE INVESTIGATION HAS PROGRESSED, IT HAS COME TO INVOLVE, AMONG OTHERS, THE FOLLOWING CORPORATIONS WHICH HAVE FOREIGN PARENT CORPORATIONS:

CIBA-GEIGY CORPORATION OF NEW YORK, PARENT: CIBA-GEIGY, LTD., OF BASEL, SWITZERLAND.

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SANDOZ-WANDER, INC. OF DELAWARE, PARENT: SANDOZ, LIMITED,

BASEL, SWITZERLAND.

VERONA CORPORATION OF NEW JERSEY, PARENT: FARBENFABRIKEN
BAYER, A.G., LEVERKUSEN, GERMANY.

AMERICAN HOECHST CORPORATION OF DELAWARE, PARENT:
FARBWERKE HOECHST, A.G., FRANKFURT, GERMANY.

BASF WYANDOTTE OF MICHIGAN, PARENT: BASF, A.G.,
LUDWIGSHAFEN, GERMANY.

3. THE EFFECTIVE LIFE OF THE GRAND JURY WILL END ON
JULY 22, 1974, AND ANY CRIMINAL INDICTMENTS WHICH MAY
RESULT IN THE INVESTIGATION WILL BE ISSUED BEFORE THAT
DATE. PRIOR TO THE ISSUANCE OF INDICTMENTS JUSTICE WILL
NOT KNOW: (1) IF INDICTMENTS WILL BE ISSUED, (2) IF
THEY WILL NAME ANY OR ALL OF THE ABOVE FIRMS OR (3) THE
SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES WHICH THE INDICTMENTS MAY COVER.

4. WITH SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO THE 1967 OECD RECOMMENDA-
TION ON NOTIFICATION OF ANTITRUST ACTIVITIES WITH POSSIBLE
EFFECT ON OTHER MEMBER STATES, ADDRESSEES ARE REQUESTED
TO NOTIFY FORMALLY HOST GOVERNMENTS OF THE ABOVE. THE
GOVERNMENTS WILL BE NOTIFIED FURTHER IF THE GRAND JURY
INDICTS ANY OF THE ABOVE FIRMS. SISCO

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